

Message Text

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FM AMCONSUL HAMBURG

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UNCLAS HAMBURG 1176

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OTRA, GW

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE FOR TRAVEL OF PRESIDENT AND VP
OF HAMBURG CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

1. WE HAVE BEEN APPROACHED BY THE HAMBURG CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR ASSISTANCE IN ARRANGING APPOINTMENTS DURING A U.S. VISIT BY THE CHAMBER PRES. AND VICE PRES. THE TWO CHAMBER OFFICERS, PRESIDENT RUDOLF SCHLENKER AND DIRECTOR GENERAL DR. GERHARD SCHROEDER, ARE VISITING THE U.S. FROM AUG 22 THROUGH AUG 31 IN CONNECTION WITH A GENERAL MEETING OF THE GERMAN/AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ATTENDED BY SOME 30 OFFICERS OF VARIOUS GERMAN CHAMBERS. WHILE MOST OF THEIR TIME IS ALREADY PROGRAMMED, SOME TIME IS FREE FOR ADDITIONAL APPOINTMENTS.

2. THE TWO OFFICIALS ARE INTERESTED IN A FEW (4-5 TOTAL) DISCUSSIONS WITH KNOWLEDGABLE AMERICANS ON THE U.S. POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SITUATION. WITHIN THE ECONOMIC SHERE, THEY ARE SPECIFICALLY INTERESTED IN COMMODITY PROBLEMS AND U.S. BANK AND TRUST REGULATION AND CONDITIONS. THEY PREFER A MORE GENERAL VIEW TO A NARROW TECHNICAL DISCUSSION. BOTH ARE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN TALKING TO THE LABOR REPORTER VICTOR RIESEL. ADDITIONAL CONTACTS WHICH THEY CONSIDER APPROPRIATE TO THEIR INTERESTS WOULD BE AN AFL-CLO OFFICER, A PRIVATE BANKING OFFICIAL AND, IF POSSIBLE, A U.S. POLITICAL FIGURE, SUCH AS A MEMBER OF CONGRESS.

3. THEIR SCHEDULE OF FREE TIME IS AS FOLLOWS:

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NEW YORK AUG 23 ALL DAY

24 UP TO 14:00

WASHINGTON DC AUG 25 ALL DAY
SAN FRANCISCO AUG 30 UP TO 17:00

4. AS THE DEPT IS AWARE, THE FRG CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE ARE SEMI-OFFICIAL, HIGHLY INFLUENTIAL ORGANIZATIONS WHICH ARE NOT COMPARABLE TO THEIR U.S. COUNTERPART. WE ADVISED THE CHAMBER THAT SUCH SHORT NOTICE MIGHT MAKE ASSISTANCE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT OR IMPOSSIBLE. HOWEVER, THE HAMBURG CHAMBER IS PROBABLY OUR SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL CONTACT AND WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE WITH APPOINTMENTS. BROGAN

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